(a) the details of foreign loan in Indian currency outstanding against the Indian Airlines till December, 1991;

(b) the steps being taken for reducing this loan;

(c) whether it is fact that the pilots were paid for the flights during the period of cancellation of the flights of Airbus A–320 from October, 1989 to November, 1990; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Foreign currency loans amounting Rs. 1825.88 crores were outstanding as on 31st December, 1991.

(b) The outstanding loans would get reduced on repayment of instalment of principal as per agreed schedules with the lenders. These commitments are being discharged as and when they fall due.

(c) and (d). Consequent to grounding of Airbus A–320 aircraft, advances amounting to Rs. 40.20 lakhs were given to the A–320 pilots between June, 1990 and November, 1990 to mitigate their financial hardship.

[*English*]

S.T.D. Facilities to Gram Sabhas

3131. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram Sabhas that have been provided with the S.T.D. facility by the end of 1991;

(b) the target fixed for providing S.T.D. facility to the Gram Sabhas for 1992–93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The proposal for providing STD facility to Gram Sabhas is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Pending Power Projects of U.P.

3132. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON–CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the power projects in Uttar Pradesh under consideration of the Union Government;

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether any Hydro–electric projects in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh is also under consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON–CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The proposals of National Thermal Power Corporation to instal Rihand Super Thermal Power Station (Stage II) (2x500 MW) and Farukhabad Gas Based Combind Cycle Project (800 MW), as well as Belthera Road Thermal Power Project (3x250 MW) of the State sector are at present pending for various clearances with the Central Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does nor arise.